

National Transportation Safety Board
Summary record of interviews with select personnel at EMS Division, Honolulu

February 20, 2001, PM

Robin McCulloch, Chief EMS Division, Honolulu
Donald Gates, Assistant Chief, Operations, EMS
Robert Pedro, MICT, Field Operations Supervisor, 24 years experience.

Conducted by:
Robert Henry, NTSB, OMS

3 pm cell phone calls from news media asking about collision. R. Pedro had duty and had EMS dispatcher call fire department, civil defense and Coast Guard. CG said there was one injured who would arrive in about 1 ½ hours. Supervisor and one ambulance traveled to Sand Island (CG). At 4:15 Mr. Pedro used a cell phone to call the CG 41 footer (UTB) and found out that there were actually one injured and 26 cold, oil soaked survivors heading in to Sand Island.

After waiting about an hour, RHI arrived with 4 survivors; the most seriously injured:

- 1 with cervical and shoulder injuries
- 1 sick and hearing
- 1 hypothermic
- 1 with severe oil burning of eyes, noise and throat.

These 4 individuals were placed in the ambulance and transported to Straub Hospital.

UTB arrived with the rest of the survivors who were escorted to the Station's lounge where they were supplied with blankets and checked for identification. The EMS personnel together with DC! Ackley, checked the survivors for injuries, checked blood pressure and escorted 8 survivors complaining about cold and burning eyes, noises and throats to a second ambulance where they were transported to Kaiser Permanente. The senior EMS had placed a call for available hospital space and most hospitals did not have room. Kaiser had 10 free beds. The EMS supervisor accompanied the ambulance to Kaiser. He traveled to Straub and checked on the status of the first 4 and then returned to Kaiser to check on the 8. All were resting comfortably.

The EMS for Honolulu City and County regularly participates in City, State, DOD, HHS, CG and DOJ exercises and is a member of the regional disaster preparedness plan (Emergency Operations Plan). They participated in the April 1999 Cruise Ex and Tripler Mass Casualty Drill. The EMS recently participated in a city terrorist table top exercise evaluated by Research Planning Incorporated, of Falls Church, VA